

# Squark production at the LHC at electroweak NLO

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# Outline

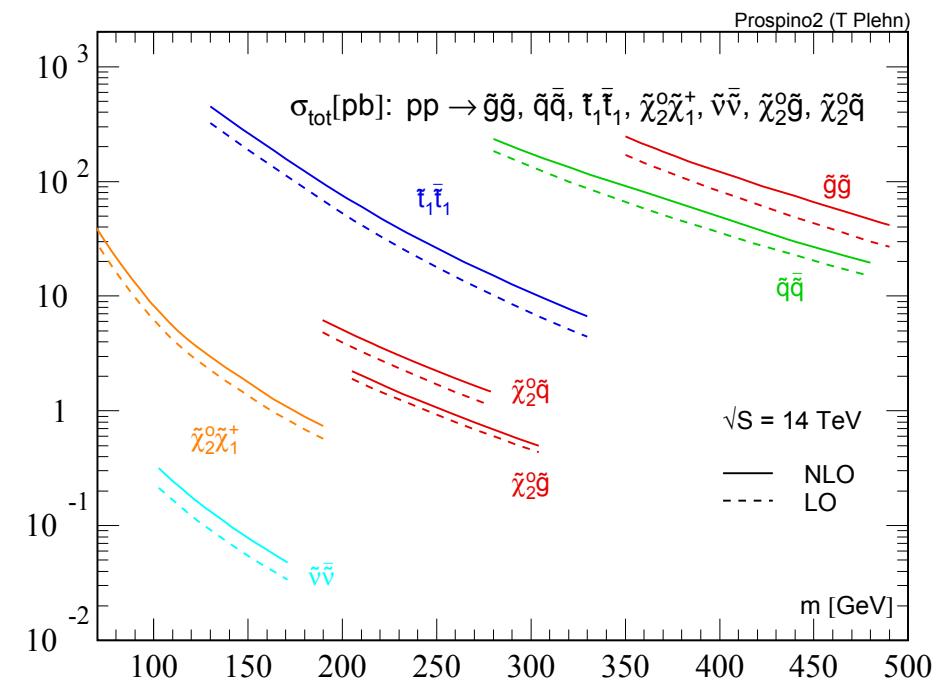
- Overview
- Squark–anti-squark production  
*1st and 2nd generation, stop*
- Squark–squark production  
*1st and 2nd generation*
- Sbottom pair production
- Conclusions

# SUSY particle production

LHC: predominantly colored SUSY particles produced

- pair production of gluinos and squarks proceeds via **strong interaction**  
→ **large cross sections**

- large top-Yukawa coupling:  
**top-squark  $\tilde{t}_1$**  candidate for  
**lightest squark**  
→ **high production rate**



- **cross section depend** essentially **on final state masses**

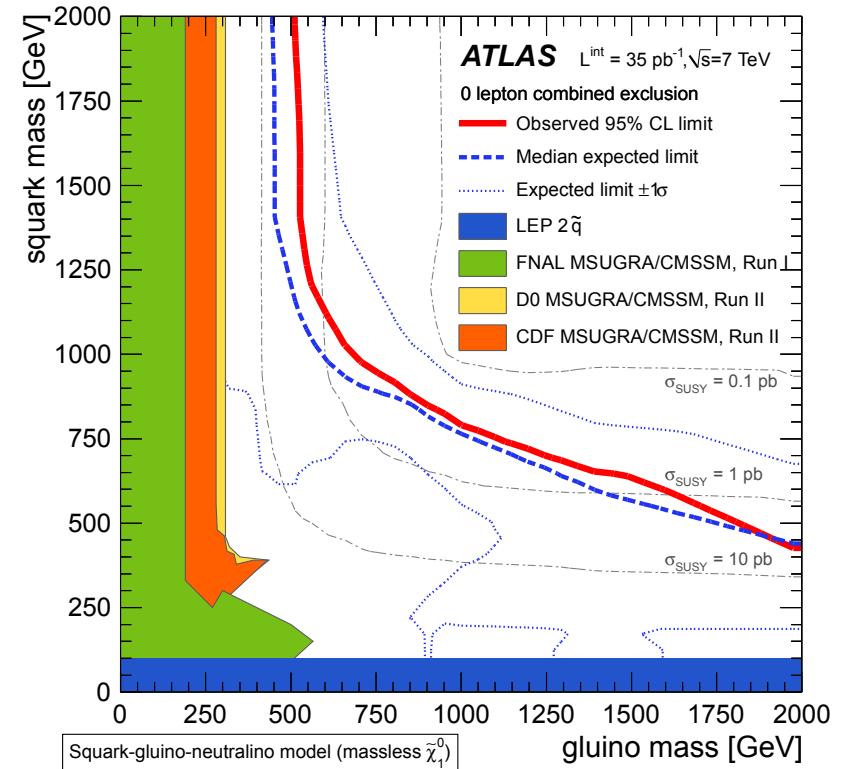
# Experimental searches for squarks and gluinos:

- **Squark & gluino** mass limits  
ATLAS, LHC 7 TeV

$$m_{\tilde{g}} \geq 500 \text{ GeV}$$

$$m_{\tilde{q}} \geq 450 \text{ GeV}$$

[arXiv:1102:5290]

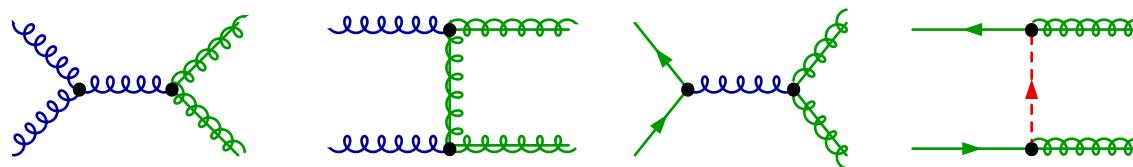


# LO contributions to squark pair production (QCD tree level)

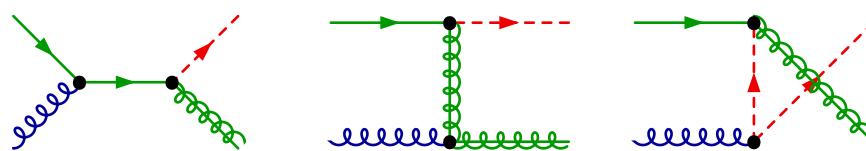
Kane, Leveille '82; Harrison, Llewellyn Smith '83; Reya, Roy '85;

Dawson, Eichten Quigg '85, Baer, Tata '85

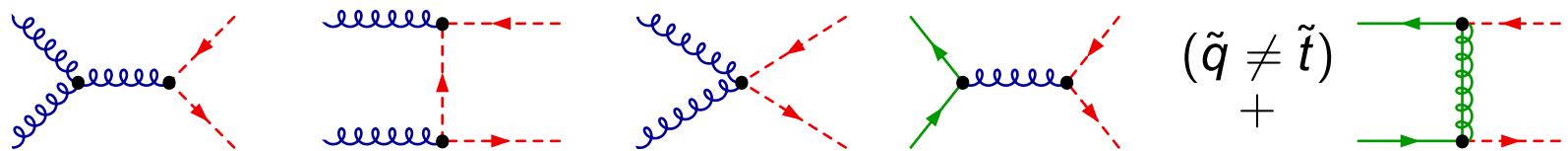
- $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$  : –  $\tilde{g}\tilde{g}$  production



- $\tilde{g}\tilde{q}$  production



- $\tilde{q}\tilde{q}^*, \tilde{b}_i\tilde{b}_i^*, \tilde{t}_i\tilde{t}_i^*$  production;  $\tilde{q}\tilde{q}$  production



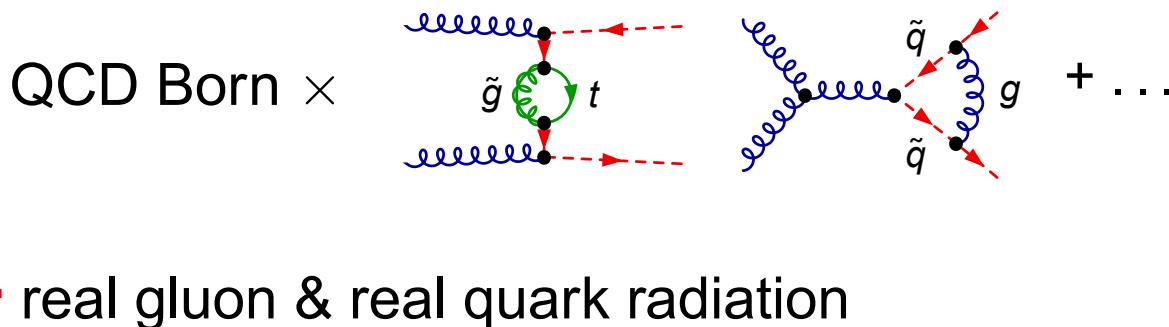
- stops & sbottoms: L-R mixing cannot be neglected; exp. distinguishable
- top-squark pair production is diagonal at LO

# Important higher order effects due to QCD corrections:

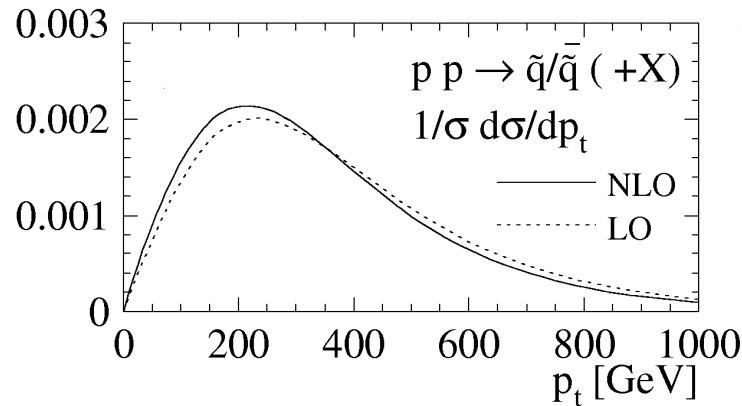
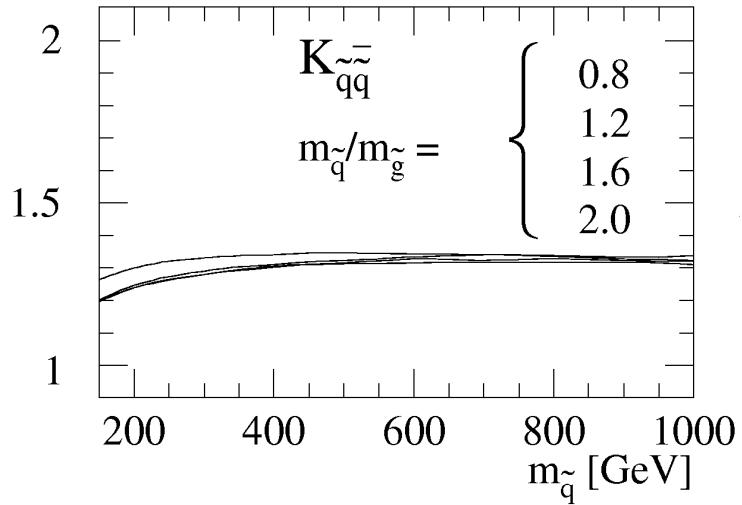
[Beenakker, Höpker, Spira, Zerwas '95 & '97] &  
[Beenakker, Krämer, Plehn, Spira, Zerwas '98]

→ PROSPINO, also for  $\tilde{g}\tilde{q}$ ,  $\tilde{g}\tilde{g}$

- $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$  : QCD NLO corrections



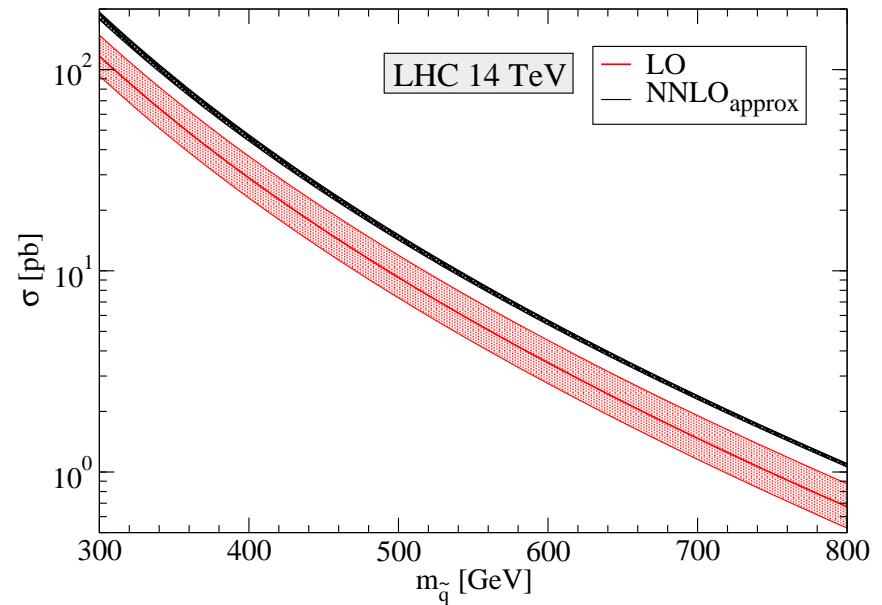
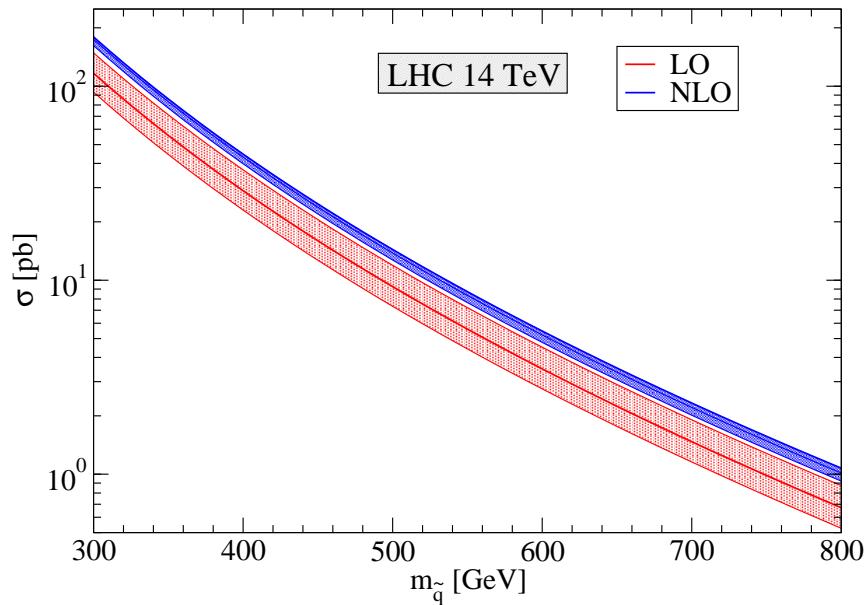
$[\tilde{q}\tilde{q}^* \text{ production:}]$



- large positive corrections
- reduced scale dependence
- negligible in normalized distributions

# NNLO for squark production, dominant soft corrections

*Kulesza et al. 2008/09; Langenfeld, Moch 2009; Beneke et al. 2009;  
Beenakker et al. 2011*



- improved theoretical prediction
- reduction of scale uncertainty

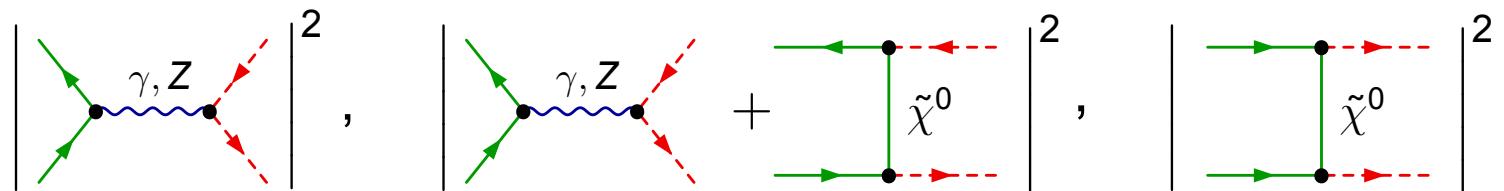
NNLO QCD contributions  $\sim$  electroweak contributions

# EW tree level contributions to squark pair production

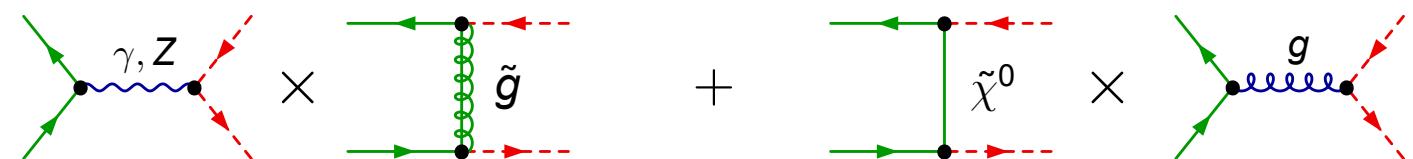
Bornhauser, Drees, Dreiner, Kim 2007

Bozzi, Fuks, Herrmann, Klasen 2007

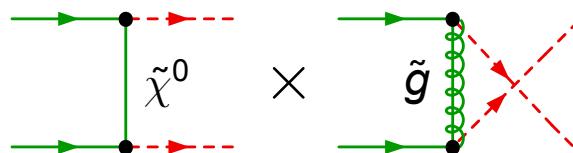
- $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$  : pure EW tree-level contributions ( $\tilde{t}\tilde{t}^*$ ,  $\tilde{q}\tilde{q}^*$ ,  $\tilde{q}\tilde{q}$  prod.)



- $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha)$  : – EW-QCD tree-level interferences to  $\tilde{q}\tilde{q}^*$  production



- EW-QCD tree-level interferences to  $\tilde{q}\tilde{q}$  production

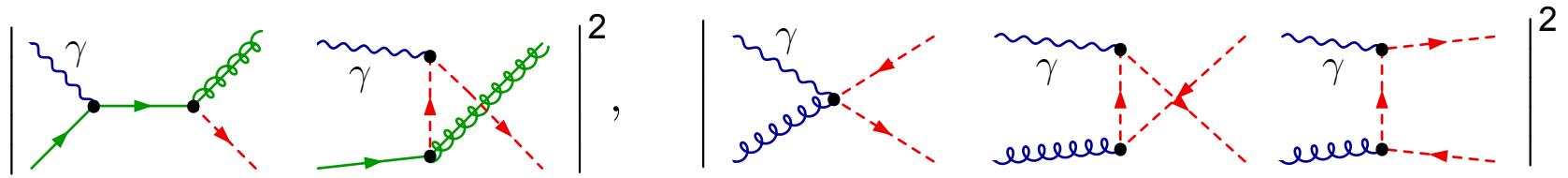


# new production channel:

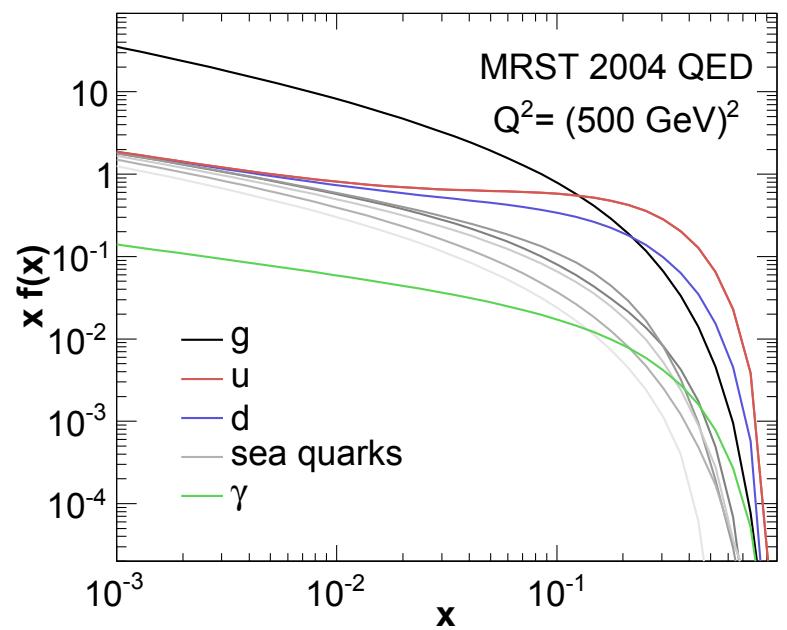
WH, Kollar, Trenkel 2007

WH, Mirabella 2008

- $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha)$  : photon induced processes



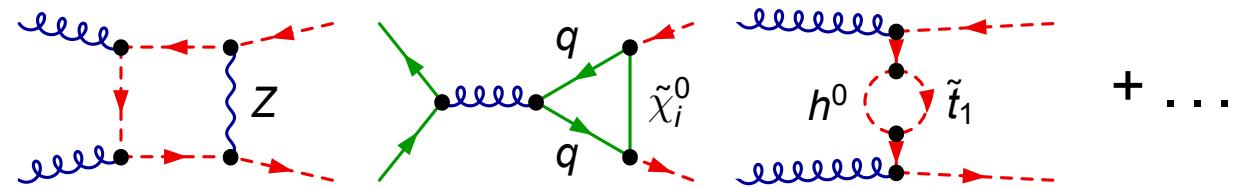
- not present at LO at the hadronic level
- **MRST 2004 QED**: inclusion of **NLO QED effects** in the evolution of PDFs
  - non-zero photon distribution
  - non-zero hadronic contributions



- $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2 \alpha)$  : NLO EW contributions  $(\tilde{t}\tilde{t}^*, \tilde{q}\tilde{q}^*)$

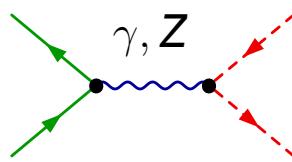
*WH, Kollar, Mirabella, Trenkel 07,08*

QCD Born  $\times$

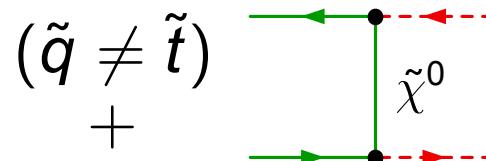
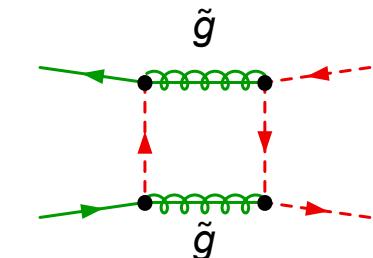
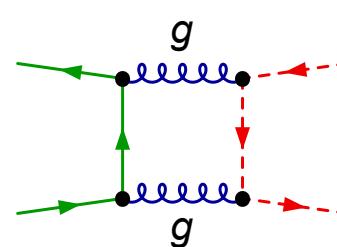


+ ...

- EW-QCD one-loop interferences



$\times$

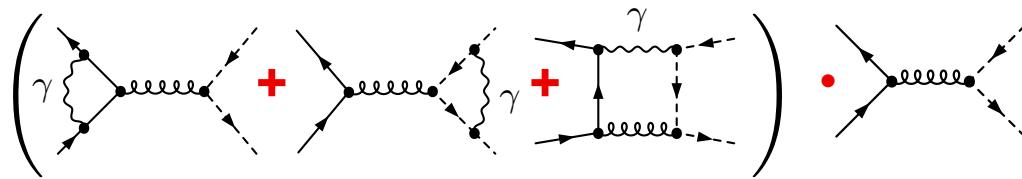


$\times$  full QCD 1-loop amplitude

- real photon, gluon, and quark radiation

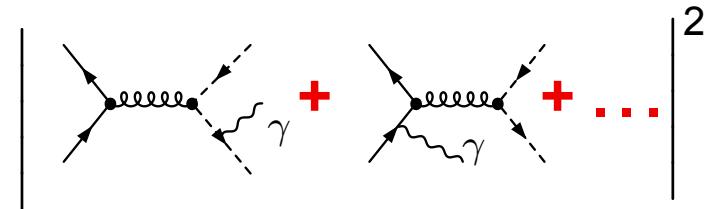
# IR divergences canceled by real photon and gluon bremsstrahlung

- soft divergent diagrams

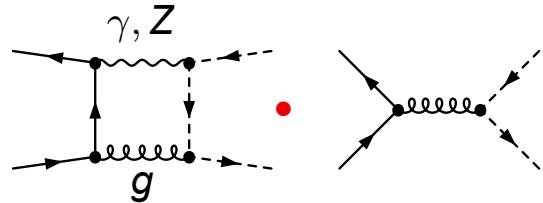


and

- soft photon bremsstrahlung

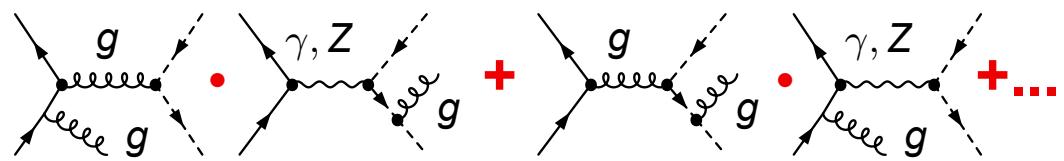


- soft gluon divergent diagrams



and

- soft gluon bremsstrahlung

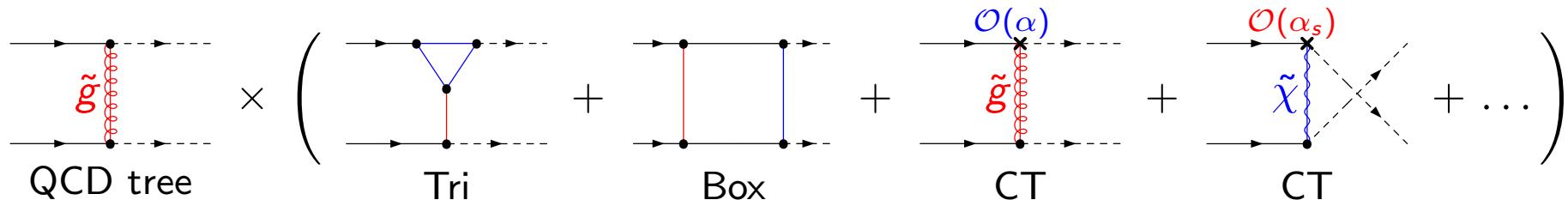


+ t-channel diagrams

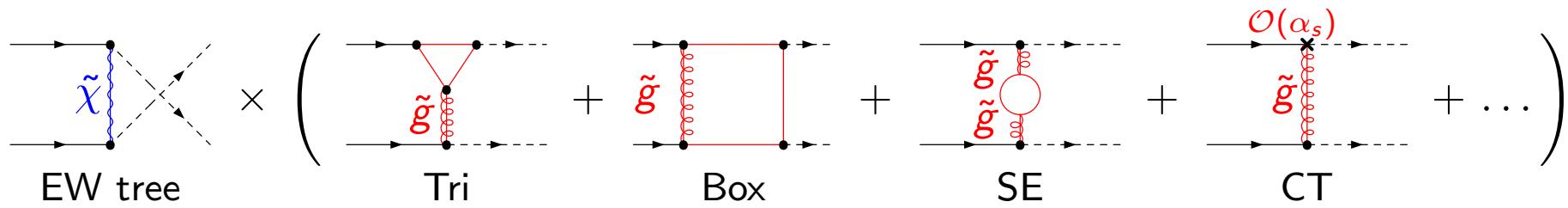
- $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2 \alpha)$  : NLO EW contributions for  $\tilde{q}\tilde{q}$  production ( $\neq \tilde{t}, \tilde{b}$ )

Germer, WH, Mirabella, Trenkel 2010

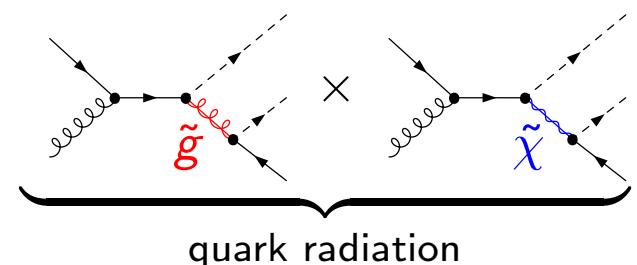
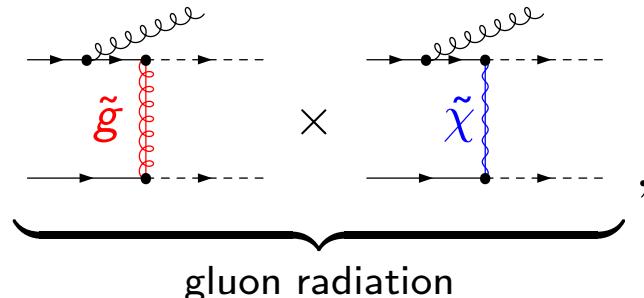
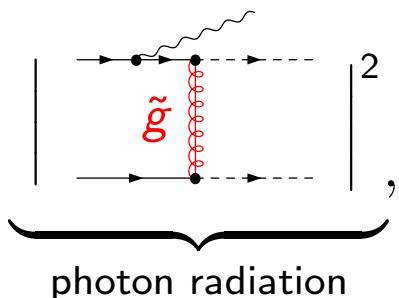
- QCD tree  $\times$  1-loop amplitude  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha)$ , e.g.



- EW tree  $\times$  1-loop amplitude  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$ , e.g.

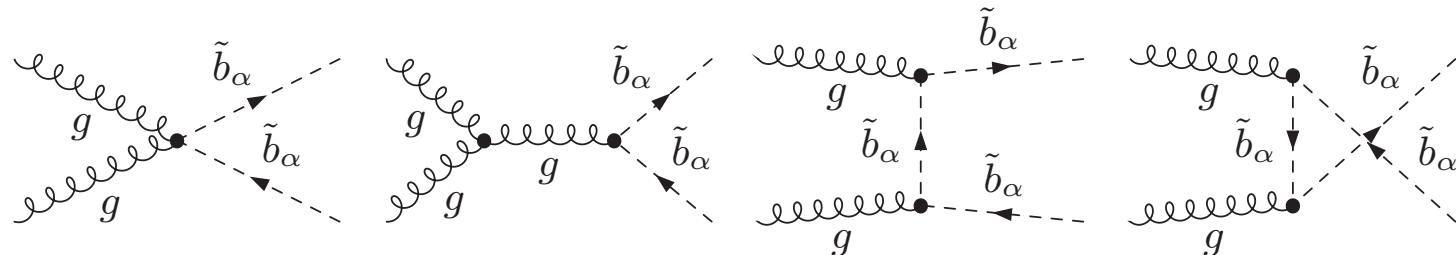


IR divergences canceled by real photon and gluon bremsstrahlung

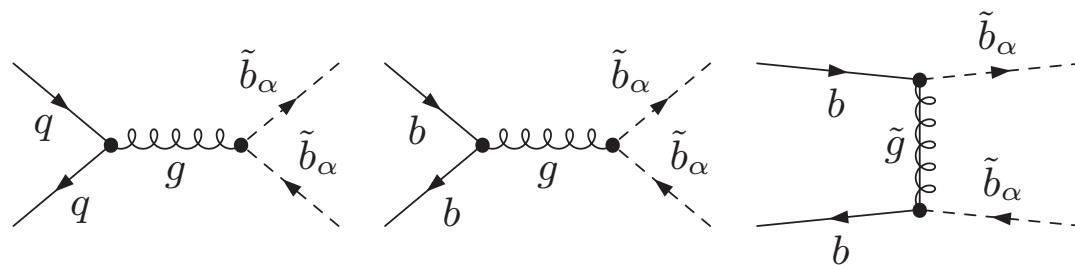


•  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2 \alpha)$  : NLO EW contributions for  $\tilde{b}\tilde{b}^*$ ,  $\tilde{b}\tilde{b}$  production

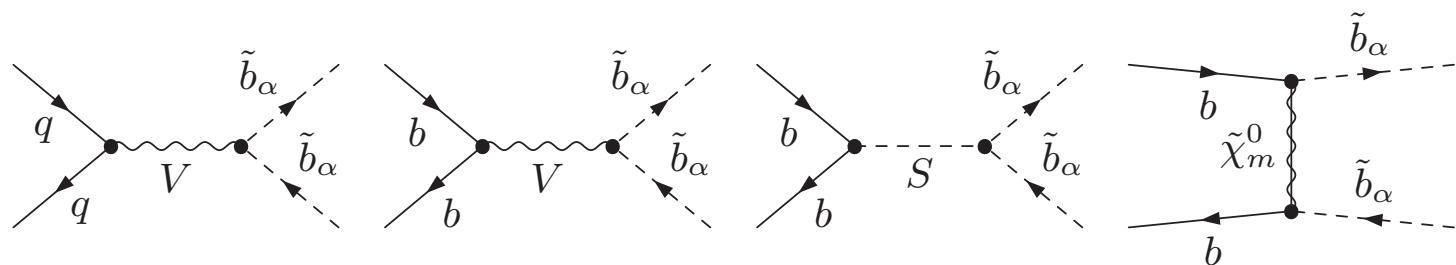
*Germer, WH, Mirabella 2011*



(a)



(b)



(c)

## Status of higher-order corrections for all squark and gluino production processes.

	$\alpha_s^2$	$\alpha_s^3$	NLL	NNLO	$\alpha^2$	$\alpha_s\alpha$	$\alpha_s^2\alpha$	#	
$\alpha, \beta \in \{1, 2\}$	$\tilde{g}\tilde{g}$	$\tilde{g}\tilde{g}$	✓	✓	✓	✗	—	✓	1
	$\tilde{g}\tilde{q}_\alpha$	$\tilde{q}_\alpha$	✓	✓	✓	✗	—	✓	8
	$\tilde{q}_\alpha \tilde{q}_\alpha^*$	$\tilde{q}_\alpha^*$	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	8
	$\tilde{q}_\alpha \tilde{q}'_\beta^*$	$\tilde{q}'_\beta^*$	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	28
	$\tilde{q}_\alpha \tilde{q}'_\beta$	$\tilde{q}'_\beta$	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	36
	$\tilde{b}_\alpha \tilde{b}_\alpha^*$	$\tilde{b}_\alpha^*$	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	2
	$\tilde{t}_\alpha \tilde{t}_\alpha^*$	$\tilde{t}_\alpha^*$	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	2

# = number of parton processes

# Renormalization

- **quarks, squarks, gluino** → **renormalized on-shell**

Treat LH down-type squark as dependent quantity.

- **(s)bottom sector** → take  $m_{\tilde{b}_2}^{OS}$ ,  $m_b^{\overline{DR}}$ ,  $A_b^{\overline{DR}}$  as independent quantities.  
 $\tan \beta$  enhanced contributions resummed.

- $\alpha_s$  →  **$\overline{MS}$  with five flavors** (same definition as in pdf)  
⇒ add finite parts to the counterterm to exclude the effects of heavy particles.

$$\delta g_s = -\frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{2}{3} \Delta + \frac{1}{3} \ln \left( \frac{m_t^2}{\mu^2} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{m_g^2}{\mu^2} \right) + \sum_{\tilde{f}^a} \frac{1}{12} \ln \left( \frac{m_{\tilde{f}^a}^2}{\mu^2} \right) \right]$$

Caution with  $\hat{g}_s$  (scalar strong coupling –  $q\bar{q}\tilde{g}$  vertex):

- **SUSY demands  $\hat{g}_s = g_s$**  but  $\overline{MS}$  spoils SUSY.
- Add symmetry restoring counterterm:

$$\delta \hat{g}_s = \delta g_s + \frac{\alpha_s}{3\pi}$$

- **IR singularities:**
  - Cancel after combining **virtual** and **real** corrections.  
[Methods: **mass regularization** & **phase space slicing**;  
gluonic corrections: **color correlations** in EW-QCD interferences.]
- **Collinear singularities:**
  - Real photon and gluon **bremsstrahlung**.
  - **Factorization** and **redefinition** of the **PDFs** at  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$ .

# EW contributions are chirality/flavour dependent

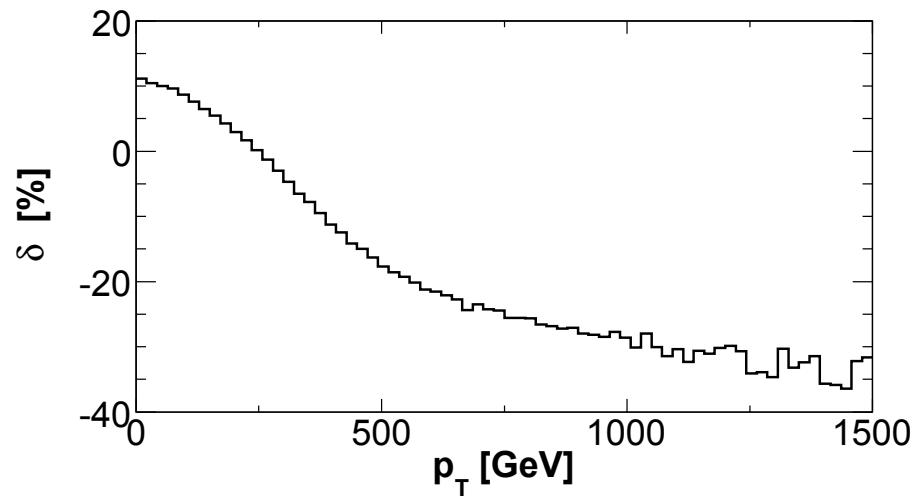
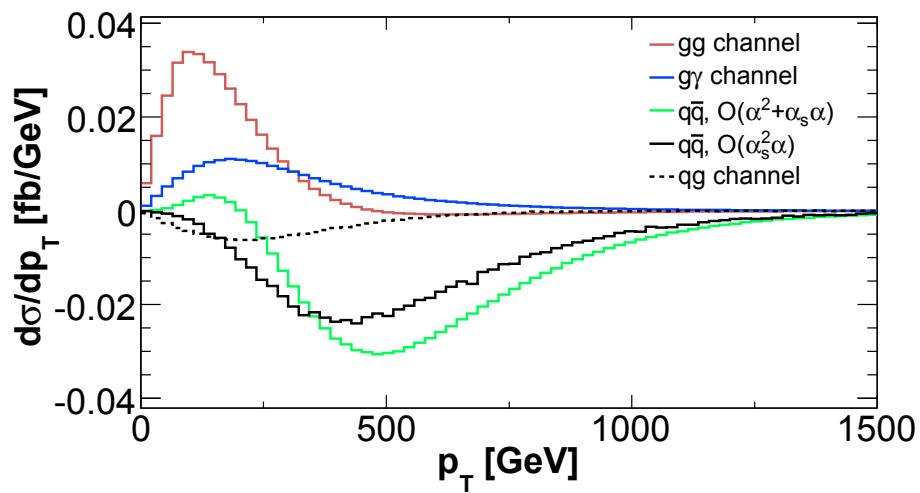
(xsection in pb, SPS1a')

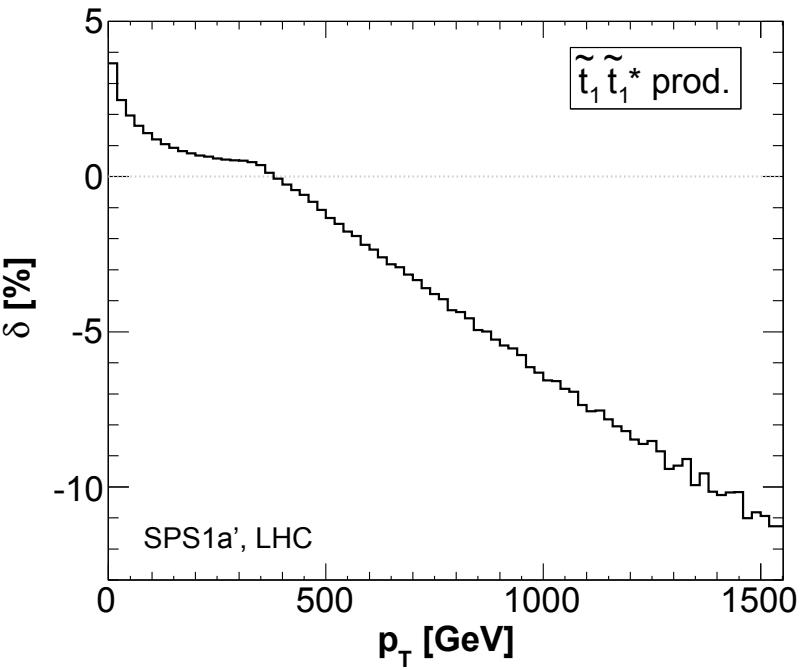
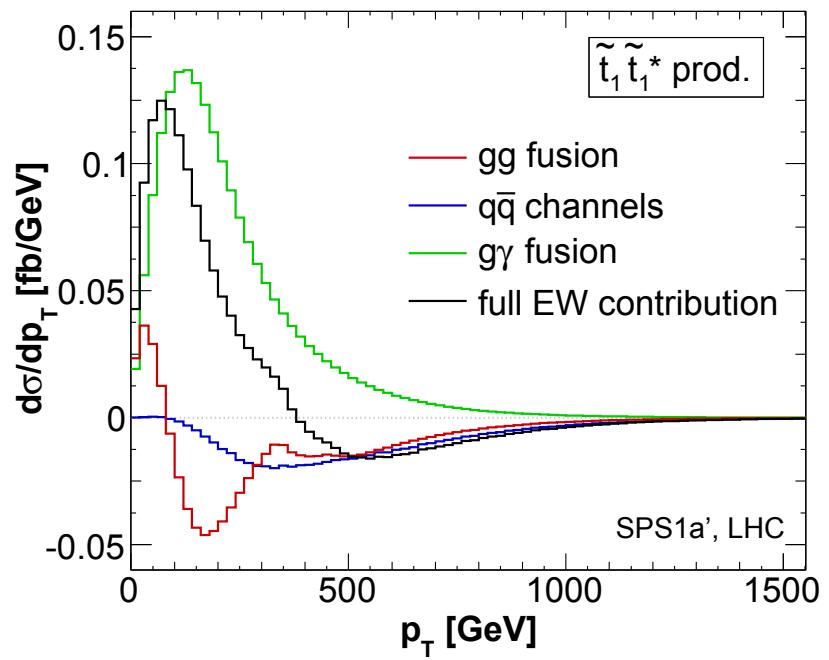
	$\tilde{u}^R \tilde{u}^{R*}$	$\tilde{u}^L \tilde{u}^{L*}$	$\tilde{d}^L \tilde{d}^{L*}$	$\tilde{c}^L \tilde{c}^{L*}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$	$(36.83 \pm 0.03) \cdot 10^{-2}$	$(31.31 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-2}$	$(25.89 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-2}$	$(22.65 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-2}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha)$	$(-9.00 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$(-3.54 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-2}$	$(-3.83 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-2}$	$(-2.82 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-3}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$	$(-2.42 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$(-2.39 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-2}$	$(-3.20 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-2}$	$(-2.11 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-3}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2 \alpha)$	$(-3.09 \pm 0.05) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$(-1.05 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-2}$	$(-7.82 \pm 0.07) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$(-5.89 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-3}$
$\delta(\%)$	-2.6	-7.0	-5.5	4.8

and fairly model dependent (example:  $u_L u_L^*$ )

	SPS5	SU1	SU4
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$	$(10.62 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-2}$	$(51.77 \pm 0.02) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$(16.14 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-1}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha)$	$(-1.37 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-2}$	$(-7.22 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$(-1.45 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-1}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$	$(-9.11 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$(-4.73 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$(-10.16 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-2}$
$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2 \alpha)$	$(-4.83 \pm 0.03) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$(-2.75 \pm 0.02) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$(-2.61 \pm 0.01) \cdot 10^{-2}$
$\delta(\%)$	-8.9	-10.1	-4.3

$u_L u_L^*$ ,  $SPS1a'$





- **Squark–Squark** production:

- Squarks of the **same flavor** (#12),

$$PP \rightarrow \tilde{u}_\alpha \tilde{u}_\beta, \tilde{d}_\alpha \tilde{d}_\beta, \tilde{c}_\alpha \tilde{c}_\beta, \tilde{s}_\alpha \tilde{s}_\beta, \quad \{\alpha\beta\} = \{LL, RR, LR\}.$$

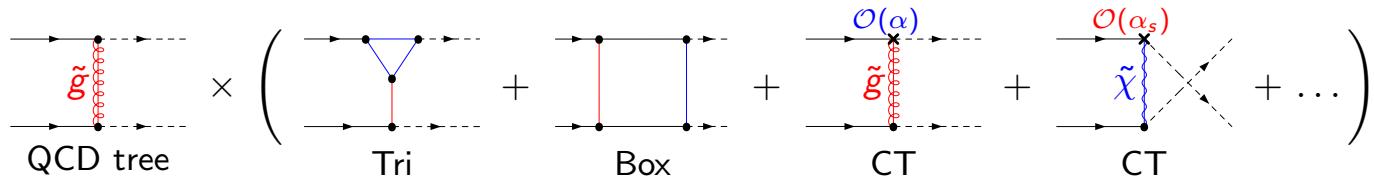
- Squarks belonging to the **same SU(2) doublet** (#8),

$$PP \rightarrow \tilde{u}_\alpha \tilde{d}_\beta, \tilde{c}_\alpha \tilde{s}_\beta, \quad \{\alpha\beta\} = \{LL, RR, LR, RL\}.$$

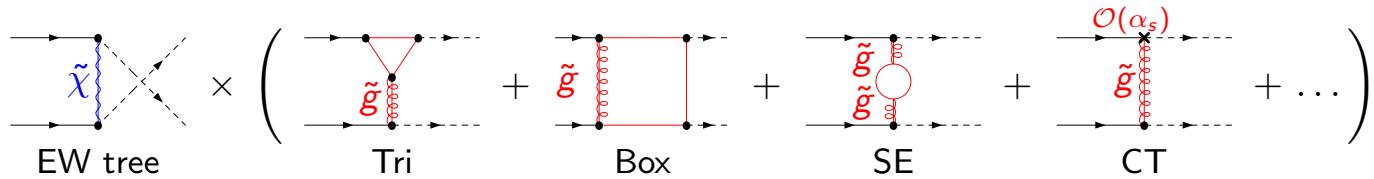
- Squarks in **different SU(2) doublets** (#16),

$$PP \rightarrow \tilde{u}_\alpha \tilde{c}_\beta, \tilde{u}_\alpha \tilde{s}_\beta, \tilde{d}_\alpha \tilde{c}_\beta, \tilde{d}_\alpha \tilde{s}_\beta, \quad \{\alpha\beta\} = \{LL, RR, LR, RL\}.$$

- QCD tree  $\times$  1-loop amplitude  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s \alpha)$ , e.g.

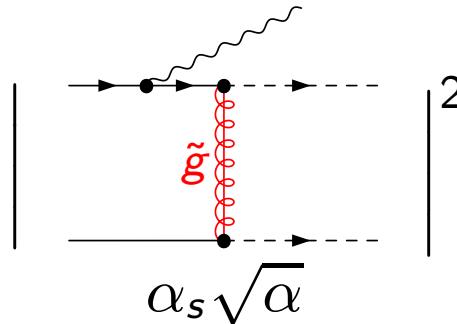


- EW tree  $\times$  1-loop amplitude  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$ , e.g.

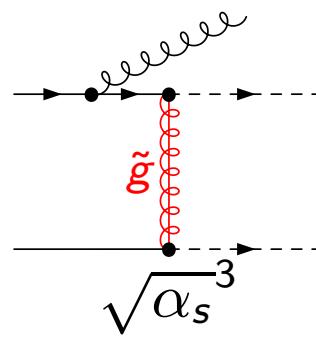


# real NLO contributions $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2 \alpha)$

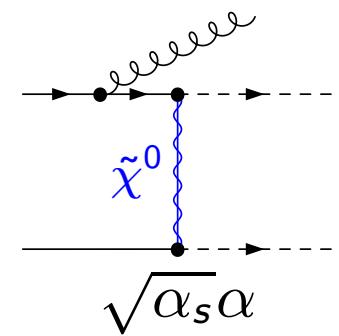
Photon bremsstrahlung



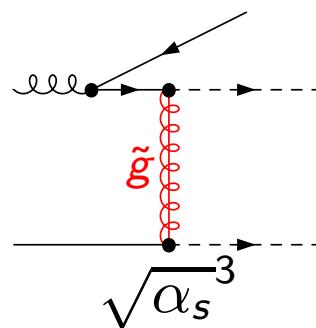
Gluon bremsstrahlung



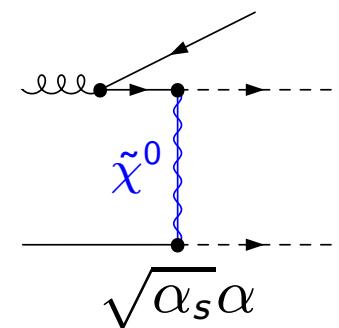
$\times$



Gluon splitting  
(real quark radiation)



$\times$



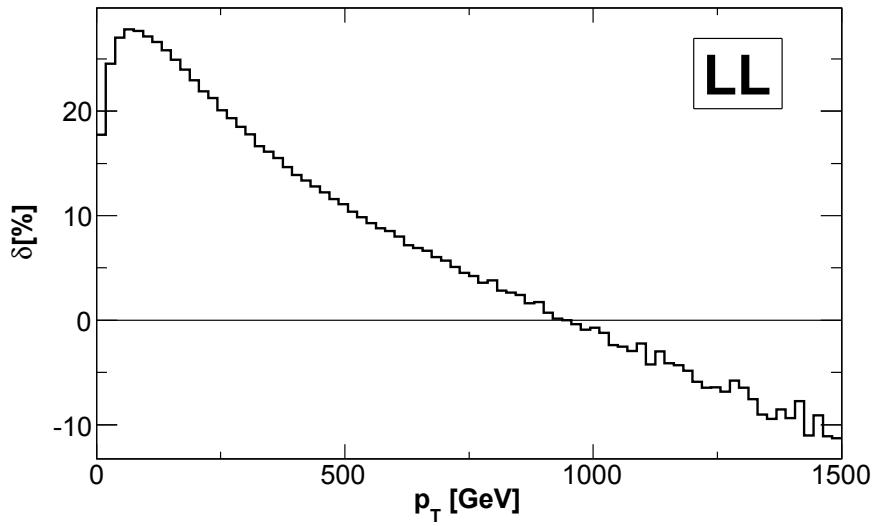
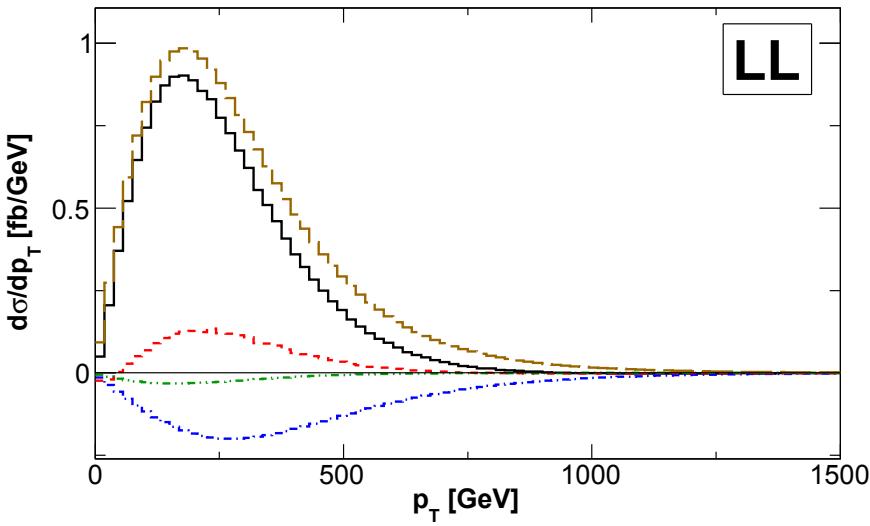
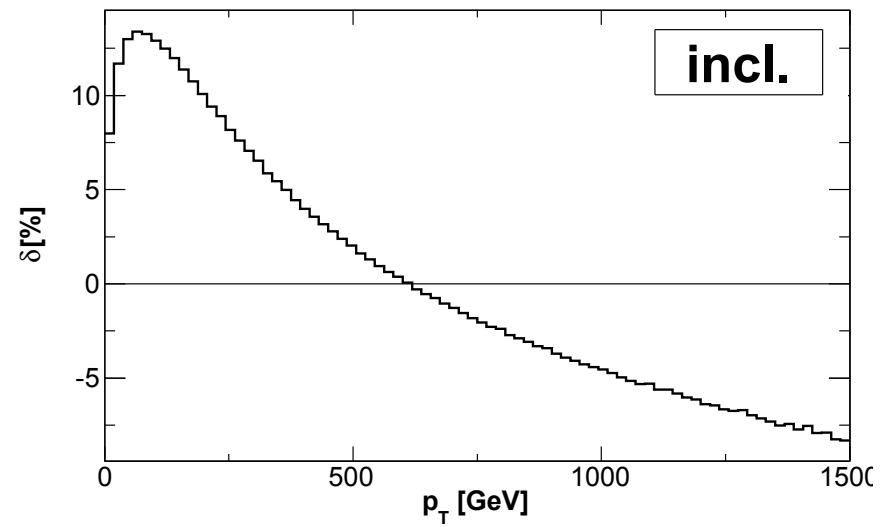
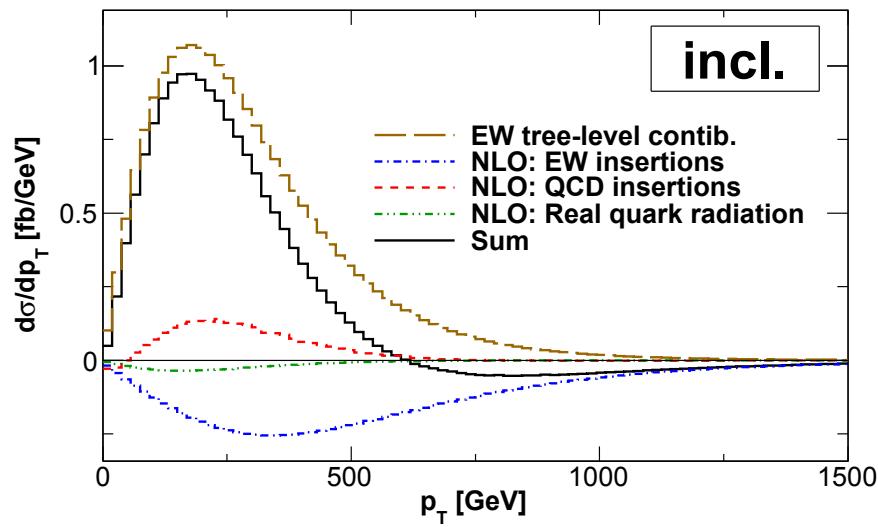
## Total cross section [ $fb$ ]

<b>SPS1a'</b> <b>14 TeV</b>	$\sigma^{\text{Born}}$ $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$	$\Delta\sigma^{\text{tree EW}}$ $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s\alpha + \alpha^2)$	$\Delta\sigma^{\text{NLO EW}}$ $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2\alpha)$	$\delta^{\text{EW}}$
$\tilde{q}_L \tilde{q}'_L$	1718	379	-75	17.7 %
$\tilde{q}_R \tilde{q}'_R$	1982	32	-2	1.5 %
$\tilde{q}_L \tilde{q}'_R$	1744	3	-71	-3.9 %
$\tilde{q} \tilde{q}'$	5443	413	-147	4.9 %

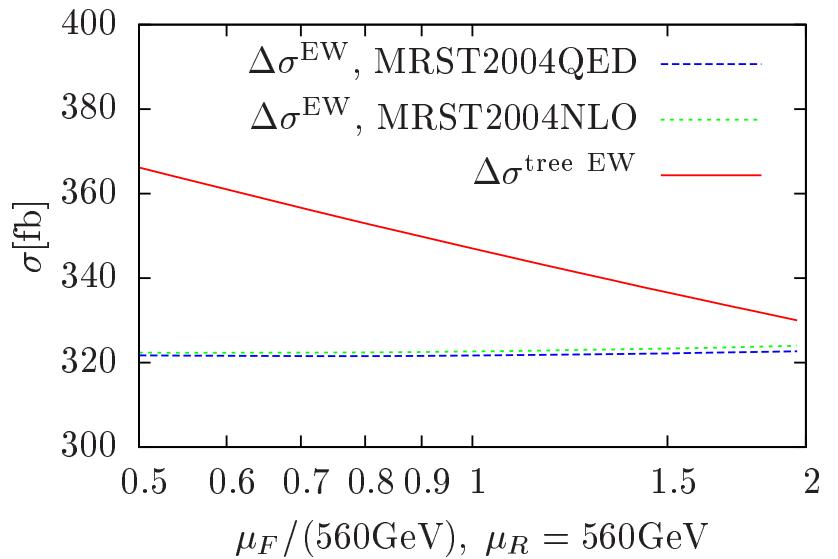
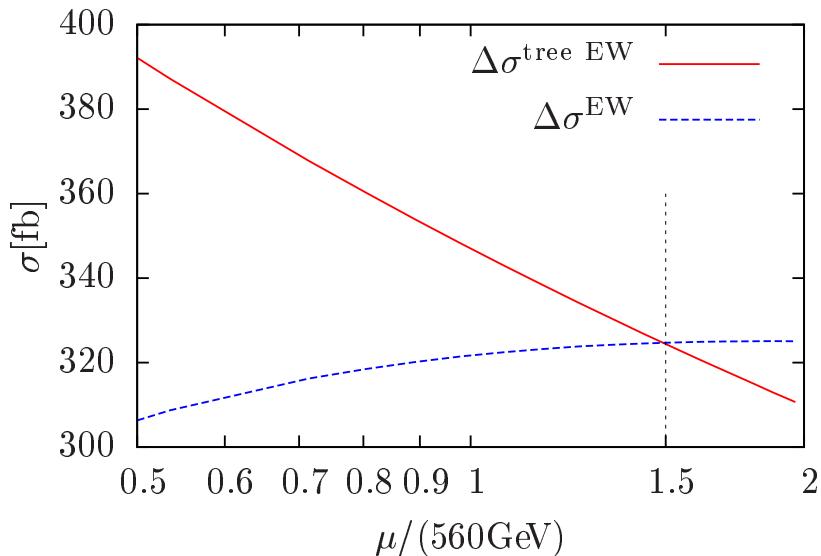
$[m_{\tilde{q}} \approx 560 \text{ GeV}]$

- Large cross section due to
  - high squark multiplicity.
  - initial state valence quarks.
- $\delta^{\text{EW}}$  strongly chirality-dependent.
- EW contributions largest for  $\tilde{q}_L \tilde{q}'_L$  production.
  - Large contribution of  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s\alpha)$ .
  - Partially canceled by NLO EW contributions of  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2\alpha)$ .

SPS1a'	$\sigma^{\text{Born}}$	$\Delta\sigma^{\text{tree EW}}$	$\Delta\sigma^{\text{NLO EW}}$	$\delta^{\text{tree EW}}$	$\delta^{\text{NLO EW}}$	$\delta^{\text{EW}}$
	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s\alpha + \alpha^2)$	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2\alpha)$			
$\tilde{u}_L \tilde{u}_L$	486.8(3)	93.78(5)	-30.5(2)	19.27 %	-6.26 %	13.00 %
$\tilde{d}_L \tilde{d}_L$	143.83(8)	29.18(2)	-9.85(6)	20.29 %	-6.85 %	13.44 %
$\tilde{u}_L \tilde{d}_L$	692.6(7)	234.8(2)	-9.5(6)	33.90 %	-1.38 %	32.52 %
$\tilde{u}_L \tilde{s}_L$	211.3(2)	17.95(3)	-8.53(1)	8.50 %	-4.04 %	4.46 %
$\tilde{u}_L \tilde{c}_L$	102.96(8)	1.864(2)	-8.885(7)	1.81 %	-8.63 %	-6.82 %
$\tilde{d}_L \tilde{s}_L$	80.19(6)	1.390(2)	-7.526(4)	1.73 %	-9.39 %	-7.65 %
$\tilde{u}_R \tilde{u}_R$	537.1(4)	28.58(2)	-4.44(8)	5.32 %	-0.83 %	4.49 %
$\tilde{d}_R \tilde{d}_R$	173.1(1)	2.414(2)	-0.318(7)	1.39 %	-0.18 %	1.21 %
$\tilde{u}_R \tilde{d}_R$	799.1(6)	0.4458(8)	3.41(3)	0.06 %	0.43 %	0.48 %
$\tilde{u}_R \tilde{s}_R$	253.0(2)	0.1276(2)	1.36(1)	0.05 %	0.54 %	0.59 %
$\tilde{u}_R \tilde{c}_R$	118.95(9)	0.2365(4)	-1.337(8)	0.20 %	-1.12 %	-0.93 %
$\tilde{d}_R \tilde{s}_R$	100.65(8)	0.0126(1)	-0.281(2)	0.01 %	-0.28 %	-0.27 %
$\tilde{u}_L \tilde{u}_R$	629.7(4)	1.288(1)	-26.41(4)	0.20 %	-4.19 %	-3.99 %
$\tilde{d}_L \tilde{d}_R$	165.49(9)	0.0792(1)	-7.027(4)	0.05 %	-4.25 %	-4.20 %
$\tilde{u}_L \tilde{d}_R$	328.5(2)	0.1720(1)	-12.30(1)	0.05 %	-3.75 %	-3.69 %
$\tilde{u}_R \tilde{d}_L$	321.4(2)	0.6026(6)	-13.81(2)	0.19 %	-4.30 %	-4.11 %
$\tilde{u}_L \tilde{s}_R$	82.26(4)	0.0450(1)	-2.809(3)	0.05 %	-3.42 %	-3.36 %
$\tilde{u}_R \tilde{s}_L$	79.90(4)	0.1556(1)	-3.167(4)	0.19 %	-3.96 %	-3.77 %
$\tilde{u}_L \tilde{c}_R$	38.08(2)	0.0832(1)	-1.388(2)	0.22 %	-3.65 %	-3.43 %
$\tilde{u}_R \tilde{c}_L$	38.08(2)	0.0832(1)	-1.388(2)	0.22 %	-3.65 %	-3.44 %
$\tilde{d}_L \tilde{s}_R$	30.24(2)	0.0149(1)	-1.2015(9)	0.05 %	-3.97 %	-3.92 %
$\tilde{d}_R \tilde{s}_L$	30.24(2)	0.0149(1)	-1.2015(9)	0.05 %	-3.97 %	-3.92 %



$\text{PP} \rightarrow \{\tilde{q}_L\tilde{q}_L, \tilde{q}_R\tilde{q}_R, \tilde{u}_L\tilde{d}_L, \tilde{c}_L\tilde{s}_L\}$



PDF set used:

- **MRST2001LO** for LO EW.
- **MRST2004QED** for NLO EW.
- **MRST2004NLO** for NLO EW.

$\sigma^{\text{NLO}} = \Delta\sigma^{\text{tree EW}} + \Delta\sigma^{\text{NLO EW}}$

SPS1a' scenario:  $m_{\tilde{q}} \approx 560$  GeV

- $\mu_R$  dependence reduced @ NLO EW.
- For  $\mu = m_{\tilde{q}}/2$ : LO EW contribution overestimated.  
→ NLO EW corrections needed!
- $\mu_F$  dependence mild @ NLO EW.  
QED evolution of the PDF not important.

- **Sbottom-(anti-)Sbottom** production:

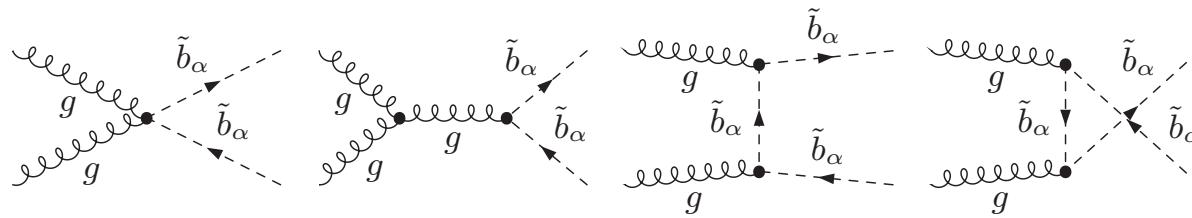
- Chirality **diagonal**  $\tilde{b}\tilde{b}^*$  production (#2):

$$PP \rightarrow \tilde{b}_1\tilde{b}_1^*, \tilde{b}_2\tilde{b}_2^*.$$

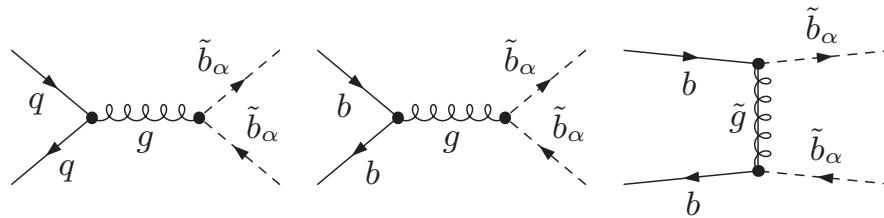
- Chirality **non-diagonal**  $\tilde{b}\tilde{b}^*$  production +  $\tilde{b}\tilde{b}$  production (#5).

$$PP \rightarrow \tilde{b}_1\tilde{b}_2^*, \tilde{b}_2\tilde{b}_1^*,$$

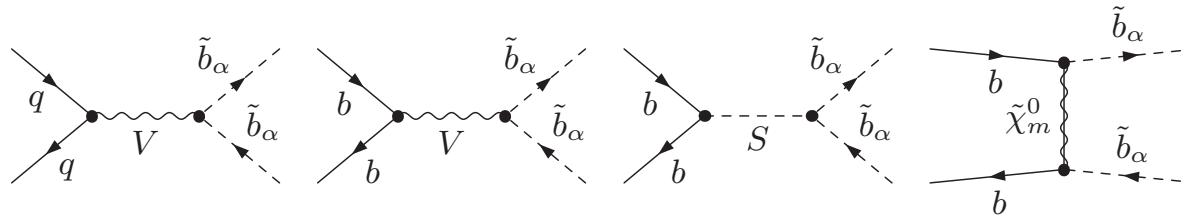
$$PP \rightarrow \tilde{b}_1\tilde{b}_1, \tilde{b}_2\tilde{b}_2, \tilde{b}_1\tilde{b}_2.$$



(a)

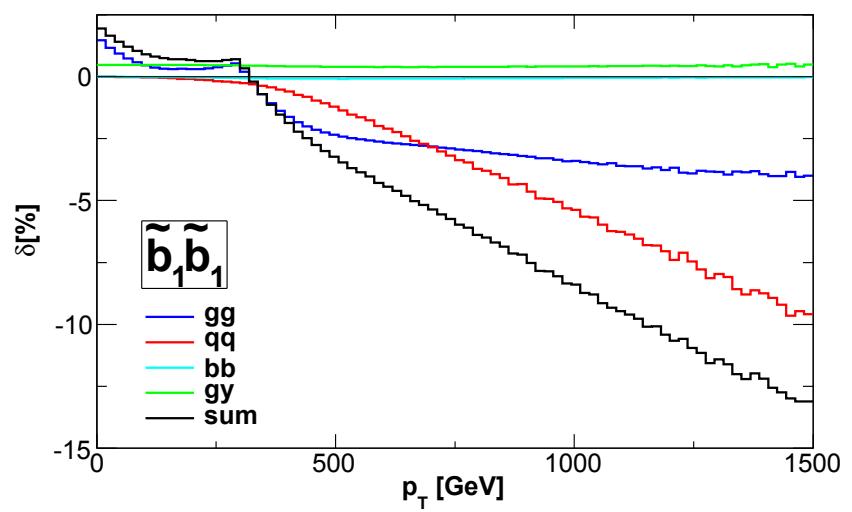
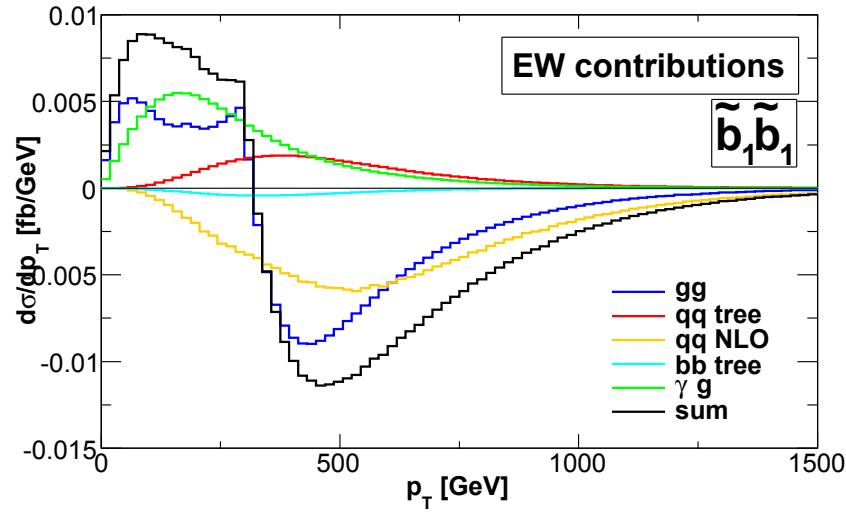


(b)



(c)

<b>SPS1a'</b> <b>14 TeV</b>	$\sigma^{\text{Born}}$ $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$	$\Delta\sigma^{\text{tree EW}}$ $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s\alpha + \alpha^2)$	$\Delta\sigma^{\text{NLO EW}}$ $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2\alpha)$	$\delta^{\text{EW}}$
$\tilde{b}_1 \tilde{b}_1^*$	444 fb	3 fb	-6 fb	-0.7 %
$\tilde{b}_2 \tilde{b}_2^*$	310 fb	2 fb	-3 fb	-0.5 %



# Conclusions

- Squark and gluino production are the important channels for SUSY search at the LHC
- QCD corrections are known at NLO and partially also at NNLO,  
significant in size and for stable predictions
- EW contributions of similar size as NNLO QCD,  
NLO contributions reduce scale uncertainty considerably
- EW contributions strongly depend on flavor and chirality,  
many different parton processes to be treated individually,  
few percent in inclusive quantites, but larger in distributions

- EW contributions modify distributions,  
no global K-factor
- fully flexible code is available

- EW contributions modify distributions,  
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**Many thanks to my collaborators**

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